

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 086271
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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 086271

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, CSCE, RO

SUBJECT: REFUSAL OF ENTRY TO NEW YORK TIMES CORRESPONDENT

REF: BUCHAREST 2780

1. DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN THE POINTS WHICH AMBASSADOR PLANS TO MAKE TO GLIGA (PARA 11 REFTEL).
2. AS FOR CONTENT OF JOURNALISTIC REPORTS (PARA 10 A), OUR POSITION SHOULD BE, AS EMBASSY POINTED OUT, TO AVOID GETTING INTO A DISCUSSION OF A REPORTER'S JUDGMENT OR CHOICE OF TOPICS. SIDESTEPPING THE QUESTION OF CONTENT, WE SHOULD STICK TO THE PRINCIPLE (PARA 11 REFTEL) THAT IN OUR VIEW A JOURNALIST HAS THE RIGHT, IN THE EXERCISE OF HIS PROFESSION, TO REPORT INFORMATION WHICH HE OBTAINS, TO HAVE ACCESS TO SOURCES OF INFORMATION AS WELL AS TO
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PAGE 02 STATE 086271

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND OF TRAVEL.

3. WE AGREE THAT THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF PART 2 (C) OF BASKET THREE OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT ABOUT NOT PENALIZING JOURNALISTS APPEARS MOST PERTINENT. EMBASSY WILL ALSO HAVE NOTED IN PART 2 (C) A CLAUSE ON TRAVEL BY JOURNALISTS AND ONE ON "OPPORTUNITIES...TO COMMUNICATE PERSONALLY WITH

THEIR SOURCES..." AND FINAL CLAUSE OF PREAMBLE TO
INFORMATION SECTION OF FINAL ACT.
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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